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Starting with this issue SIGAP's monthly bulletin takes on a completely new look. The printed heading, which we are sure members will agree gives it a neater and more official appearance, is another step towards a proper magazine.

Up until now news of UFO sightings has been more or less restricted to the Surrey area. But from now on there will be full details too of the more important sightings from all over the world. In fact we hope that the bulletin will not just appeal to SIGAP members but to ufologists up and down the country. In the past the bulletin has been issued to members and friends of SIGAP, UFO societies and independent researchers who request it. Now a big drive is under way to get more and more people outside our group to buy the bulletin. Yes, I said that nasty word "buy". Beginning this month too the bulletin will cost one-shilling. This is in order to cover printing, duplicating and paper costs. We feel this is very reasonable in view of the price of some UFO publications. SIGAP members needn't worry though for the bulletin is included with their subscription.

What can you expect to see in forthcoming issues of the "new look" bulletin? Here are some of the scheduled items:-

- (A) UFO news from Surrey and all parts of the world.
- (B) Letters from foreign UFO societies.
- (C) Advances in astronomy and astronautics.
- (D) Progress of the new science of exobiology.
- (E) Details of any SIGAP projects and miscellaneous information on the group and its members.

Now that the SIGAP bulletin, will we hope, have a wider readership, I repeat an appeal I have made on many previous occasions for articles and interesting UFO titbits for inclusion in the bulletin. Some of the things which would be welcomed are features on ufology and related topics, interesting extracts from UFO books and magazines, and your views on the UFO phenomena as a whole. As I have said before, the more articles sent in the more interesting the bulletin becomes. Newspaper clippings would be particularly useful. At present SIGAP has access to most of the national papers and a few of the local ones. But it is easy to miss something and is far better for someone to send in a clipping of which we already have a copy, than not to get one at all. So clippings from provincial papers anywhere in the country, and for that matter articles from magazines, would be very welcome. If they are wanted back we will merely photostat them.

The circulation of the SIGAP bulletin is about 80 at present. If, during the next few months, this figure rises substantially we should be in a position to go over to a quarto duplicated magazine with a glossy cover. Then our ultimate goal - a printed magazine.

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+ U F O s : T H E L O C A L S C E N E +
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A luminous cigar-shaped UFO was seen by a number of people in a car park at Earlswood Lakes, Redhill, at about 11.30 p.m. on August 11. Among the eye-witnesses were London accountant Mr. James Winze and his girl-friend Miss Hilary Parker, of Wimbledon.

A report in the August 16 issue of the "Surrey Mirror" says that Mr. Winze was the first to see the object. He drew his girl-friend's attention to it and both watched the UFO move slowly across the sky. Miss Parker said it was like a luminous sausage. It bore no resemblance whatsoever to an aircraft, she added. An airline navigation officer at Gatwick Airport said the object could have been a weather balloon.

Residents of Hooley, four miles from Redhill, reported seeing a similar UFO a number of times over their village. Mrs. R. A. Bathmaker, of Clover Hill, Hooley, described it as spindle-like with a disc structure, possibly revolving, underneath. The Meteorological Office told Mrs. Bathmaker that the object was not a weather balloon and advised her to ring the Ministry of Defence. She did so, but they couldn't tell her what the object was either. They did however, take details of the sighting.

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A "very bright light" was seen in the sky over Guildford's Friary Sportsground by several members of an archery club, at 7.30 p.m. on September 11. One of those who saw it was Mr. J. A. Plowman, an executive, of 23 Kings Road, Guildford.

He says in his report: "I arrived at Friary Sportsground to find members of my club looking vertically upwards and watching a bright light which looked like a very large star with two or three others, smaller, in close proximity. It would appear that they had noticed this very bright light which seemed to be stationary, when suddenly three other lights split from the main source and moved around. At the time of my arrival they were all stationary and then gradually faded, seeming to go higher and higher until there was no sign left. What I saw lasted approximately ten minutes and no other stars or lights were visible at the time". SIGAP is awaiting further details on this sighting from the other members of the archery club.

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Five lights in the sky were seen by Margaret Francis, of 33 Levylsdene, Merrow, Guildford, just before dusk on August 5 as she was driving out of Guildford along the Aldershot Road.

She says in a letter to SIGAP: "I saw five white lights ahead of me, fairly high in the sky. This was so unusual that when the lights, became obstructed by trees I endeavoured to catch sight of them again as I rounded a bend in the road - but they had vanished. I'm quite certain it was neither an aeroplane nor helicopter".

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A spherical object "enveloped in an orange glow" was seen by a Cranleigh woman early on August 24.

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An extremely interesting account of a brilliant glowing object approximately the size of the moon which was seen over Midhurst, Sussex at 11.45 p.m. on July 15, comes from Mrs. G. C. Richardson.

She said: "While walking my dogs in an orchard near my house just before retiring I looked up towards Bexley Hill and saw what must have been a UFO cruising steadily below the tree line on the horizon from the direction of Petersfield towards Petworth. I stood and watched it for at least four to five minutes. Then it disappeared over the tree line of Curdray Golf Course, getting smaller and dimmer as it did so. In appearance it was a remarkable glowing object - like the headlights of a car in brilliance. It might have been imagination, but I thought I saw a slight grey vapour, first to the left of the object, then underneath while it was over the fields above the orchard. It made no sound at all and appeared to be in no hurry, merely cruising along peacefully, possibly a reconnaissance. This was nothing like I have ever seen before and certainly not an aircraft that I know of, as it was far too large, brilliant and soundless. The vapour was very faint and grey and only visible for a few minutes while close, otherwise the UFO was just a brilliant glowing light. It did not pulsate or alter course and was of the same brilliance until dimming and becoming smaller as it was lost to my view in the Petworth direction. The vapour might have been imagination, but a UFO it certainly was. I wish I had had another witness, but I could not rush to the telephone as I might have missed seeing in what direction it went and if it did anything out of the ordinary. I nearly telephoned the police, but then decided against it, as they might have laughed".

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SIGAP member Roger Thackray has sent in a report of a bright star-like UFO which performed various antics in the sky over Guildford and Worplesdon on September 1.

Here is Roger's extremely detailed account of what he saw:-
"I came out of Guildford's Civic Hall at midnight. It was a bright night, reasonably clear with some scattered high cloud. I was sitting on the steps looking north when I saw a bright light the size of a large star moving west. I pointed it out to one of my friends, G. Andrews, and stated that it was a satellite. We both watched it and it stopped for maybe two seconds and started moving back in an easterly direction from where it had come. This eliminated a satellite, so we continued to watch the light for about 20 minutes. It was moving east to west and back at a steady rate stopping at each extremity for about two seconds. The extent of travel was about 30° of sky in approximately two minutes. The size and light intensity were consistent. Whilst stationary at each extremity it appeared to move up and down slightly, before moving off horizontally. But this could have been an optical illusion. Occasionally, with no regular pattern, the light would flicker and dim and then return to its usual brilliance, which could have been due to haze or scattered cloud which existed in that part of the sky. Most stars were visible however. After observing the regular movement for 20 minutes my companions and I set off in the group van to Godalming, dropped off one person and returned to Guildford. Whilst passing the G.P.O. sorting office in Woodbridge the light again came into view. It was particularly noticeable being much larger than the other stars. J. Enever and myself were the only two in the van now, driving down Worplesdon Road to my home, still observing the light in front of us and slightly to the right. It now appeared larger and brighter and a vague shape seemed to materialise. (This again could have been imagination and illusion through staring at it, but John Enever also agreed there was a shape).

We stopped the van on the open stretch of the road between Perry Hill and Fox Corner and the object was on our right facing towards Brookwood and much closer".

John and Roger got out of the van and saw that the light at least appeared to have a shape - that of two domes, one upside down, joined at their bases.

Continues Roger: "Turning off the Bagshot Road into Berry Lane we arrived at my house and the light, again in a northerly direction, was easily visible through a tree. I went inside and pointed it out to Miss L. Bennet and my mother and father. The time was 12.50 a.m. We all went upstairs and watched it until 1.10 a.m. It was still doing exactly the same movements. Everyone at my home agreed that whilst stationary the light did move up and down. My father is in the aircraft industry and agreed that it was no aircraft. At 1.10 a.m. the light flickered and diminished to star size or even smaller and moved off in a north-easterly direction until it became a pinprick of light and disappeared".

From Roger's home the object appeared to be star-shaped. He goes on to say: "Whilst it was disappearing it was flickering, but with no regularity. At all times the colour of the light was blue-white and at no time were any observation lights visible. Total observation time: approximately 40 minutes. But it was in the sky at least from midnight until 1.10 a.m. I would reckon the object was moving between Camberley and Chertsey passing over Bagshot.

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SIGAP's list of members continues to grow.....The latest person to join our group is Mrs. J. Hodgins, of 43 Farnham Road, Guildford.

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FANCY THAT: A request for information on SIGAP and a copy of the "bulletin" was recently received from Mr. Michael McNamara, of Brighton. Not the one in Sussex - but in Victoria, Australia!

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Congratulations and best wishes for the future go to SIGAP Photographic Analyst Norman Wynn and Ivy Price, who were married on August 24 at Aston Parish Church, Birmingham. The couple are making their home in Guildford.

The Editor apologises to Norman for forgetting to mention the happy event in last month's bulletin. We hope that married life doesn't interfere too much with Norman's SIGAP activities.....

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A talk on UFOs was given by SIGAP Chairman Omar Fowler to 30 members of Emmanuel Church Young Wives' Group, Stoughton, Guildford, on September 11.

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SIGAP Foreign Correspondent Keith Burnett has written to several UFO societies abroad asking if they are willing to exchange sighting details and publications. Here are the replies he received from two of them:

Students Investigation on UFOs
(SIUFO)

1741 S.W. 17 Oklahoma City
Oklahoma 73108

"The SIUFO is only interested in a serious study of UFOs. Our main purpose is to unite the efforts of those members making science projects on UFOs for next year's science fairs. The SIUFO is a youth organisation and the age of our members runs from 12 to 17. We have also three college students who form the Membership Evaluation Committee. We also have a Board of Advisors and a Science Staff.

"The SIUFO is interested in linking up with your group. I hope our helping out each other will be beneficial. If SIGAP has any sightings of UFO explosions I would appreciate it if you would send us details. We will reciprocate in any helpful way possible".

Signed: Tim Kuhlmann, Director/SIUFO

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Extraterrestrial Phenomena Investigating Committee
(EPIC)

Box 622, Schenectady, New York 12301

"Would be glad to co-operate with you in any way possible. I will see to it that you are put on our publication exchange list.

"At present I am hard at work on a book that is deadlined for Fall publication. I am looking for information on ancient sightings. Anyone who can pass some along to me (with proper bibliography of course) will receive credit.

"Our group is quite active. I also work with APRO and have conducted a radio program "UFO-Skywatch" over WSNY, Schenectady, New York, for over a year now. I also lecture, write for various publications and have appeared on network radio and TV shows. I will be doing radio tapes for the Voice of America on the subject of UFOs, this summer, in Washington D.C.

"Looking forward to hearing from you and also to receiving your group's publication. Hoping our arrangement will be a mutually profitable one".

Signed: Jennifer Stevens, Director/EPIC

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Now that most members have probably had their holidays, SIGAP is resuming its meetings. Already an impressive programme has been drawn up for the coming months. As in the past, all meetings will be held in the canteen of the Plastic Coatings Factory, Guildford, starting at 8 p.m. (The factory is just off the Woodbridge Meadows By-pass).

The following is a list of the scheduled meetings. Additional ones may also be held.

October 15, 1968: "Leys and Orthoteny". A talk on a particularly intriguing aspect of the UFO enigma, given by Jimmy Goddard, Chairman of Contact U.K. (North Surrey Branch).

November 12, 1968: At this meeting some 30 colour slides will be shown. They will be of SIGAP member Dan Butcher's superb UFO paintings.

December 10, 1968: "A Film Evening". Two exciting space films will be shown. The first will be "Doorway to Tomorrow", a 28-minute colour documentary on the John F. Kennedy Space Centre, Florida, with emphasis on the Complex 39 "Moonport" from which the Apollo astronauts will be launched to the Moon. The film shows in detail the Vehicle Assembly Building, tallest structure in the world, assembly of a Saturn-Apollo rocket, the mission launch control centre and the movement of the launch vehicle by crawler to the launch pad. "The Clouds of Venus" is a 30-minute colour film on the planning, launching and results obtained from the flight of the Mariner II Venus probe on December 14, 1962. In order to cover the cost of hiring the films a small charge will have to be made. Members: 1s 0d. Non-members: 1s 9d.

February 11, 1969: A talk on UFOs by a BUFORA representative.

April 8, 1969: "UFORUM" - a discussion on the feasibility of alien craft visiting the Earth.

June 10, 1969: SIGAP's annual meeting.

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During the months preceding the Spanish conquest of Mexico in March, 1519 a nameless dread seized the people of the doomed country. Something like what we today would call "a UFO wave" occurred. Whether or not there was a rumour of the coming of Hernando Cortes we cannot say, but sinister auguries began to make their appearance.

Inextinguishable fires broke out and what appeared to be comets traversed the sky for hours on end. All the astrologers in the land were called to interpret the phenomena, but they failed to answer the riddle. Anyone dreaming of anything about the end of the Empire was ordered to report the matter. Panic spread far and wide. The rulers lost their morale and the dreamers were massacred. The ordered and settled world of the Aztecs had lost its equilibrium, and the country was ripe for the plucking.

Two reports from this "wave" have come down to us in meagre detail. One tells of an enchanted "crane" which appeared in the middle of the day, bearing a mirror in which a starry sky was seen to be reflected. The other relates how a shepherd was kidnapped by an "eagle" and borne away to a shining grotto where he was received by a personage "compared with whom Montezuma (the Aztec ruler) was nothing". (Ref. Laurette Sejourne, Burning Water: Thought and Religion in Ancient Mexico).

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+ U F O s R O U N D T H E W O R L D +
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A giant "birdman" is terrorising people in the Chillan area of Chile, South America. The creature is claimed to be almost 10 ft. tall, has wings instead of arms, and an albino white head and body. Police are convinced that the "thing" exists and lorry and jeep safaris go out daily in search of it.

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A mysterious pyramid-shaped object with three bright knobs hovered over Madrid for more than an hour at the beginning of last month. A Spanish Air Force jet chased the object to an altitude of 50,000 feet and then had to return to base because of fuel shortage.

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A UFO wave is sweeping Argentina. Some of the places where "saucers" or their crew are alleged to have been seen in recent weeks are:

MENDOZA: Two casino workers claim that two humanoid-like beings paralysed them and took blood samples from their fingers. The aliens also made inscriptions on their cars with some sort of welding implement.

MAR DEL PLATA: Three saucers hovered over the sea. Seen by hundreds of people. Navy explanation - planes.

BUENOS AIRES: Alleged collision between a car and "saucer". Some reports said two bald-headed dwarfs were captured.

BAHIA BLANCA: Mother of two said alien called at her house. Creature was supposed to have been tall, hairless and earless. Its mouth was big, teeth long and eyes flashing.

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A research centre is to be built at Columbia, New Jersey, by the Society for the Investigation of the Unexplained. UFOs and all sorts of wierd "things" which defy scientific explanation will be studied there.

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West Australian publican John Stevens believes he was followed by a "saucer" for 20 miles. John, who lives in Fremantle, was driving to Kalgoorlie, 374 miles east of Perth, when his car was lit up by a peculiar light. It was V-shaped with a central spotlight. When he got out of his car the light disappeared, but came on again as he drove off.

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Some 400 people phoned London Airport at the beginning of last month after seeing flashing lights in the sky over London and the Home Counties. The Ministry of Defence and British Airports Authority said it was an aircraft carrying out calibration tests.

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Two more "explanations" for UFOs. According to Philip Klass, editor of an American aviation magazine, they are nothing more than plasmas - molecular balls of fire. These he claims are often associated with power cables and thunder and lightning. What people see are not alien spacecraft but freak atmospheric phenomena. (Editor: Plasmas may well account for some sightings but Klass' ingenious theory fails to explain many facets of the UFO mystery - in particular "saucer" landings and contact with their crews). An even more way-out theory has been put forward by Italian aeronautical engineer Vesco. He says there is nothing "Out-of-this-world" about flying saucers. They are simply experimental craft designed and built by British scientists and flown from secret bases in Canada!!!
